



## HIV/AIDS in the City of Seattle and in King County

**SUMMARY:** HIV and AIDS cases, like other sexually-transmitted diseases, have always been concentrated in urban areas. In King County, both the number and the rate of persons diagnosed with HIV infection for the City of Seattle continues to exceed that for the rest of King County. Over the past few years there has been a slightly faster growth of cases among persons residing south and west of Seattle, from 8% of new HIV diagnoses 1994-96, compared with 11% in 2000-02. Within Seattle, the HIV rates also vary markedly by geographic region. Both within and outside of Seattle, male-to-male sexual contact is the most common mode of HIV exposure. However, HIV cases outside Seattle are more often attributed to injection drug use and heterosexual contact than are cases diagnosed within Seattle.

### STATUS OF HIV/AIDS CASES:

- Of the 5,112 King County residents reported living with HIV or AIDS through June 2002, 86% were Seattle residents, 8% reside south or west of the city, and 6% reside north or east of Seattle (see table below).
- Of HIV cases with known risk, 76% of Seattle cases were attributed to male-to-male sex (MSM), compared to 66% of cases in those living outside of Seattle.
- Compared to Seattle residents reported with HIV, those living outside of Seattle when they were diagnosed were more likely to be female (17% vs. 8%) and to have been reported as infected with HIV either heterosexually (15% vs. 6%) or through non-MSM injection drug use (10% vs. 7%).

### King County Residents Living with HIV or AIDS reported through 06/2002

Residence at time of AIDS diagnosis:	Seattle N=4,388		Outside of Seattle N=727	
	No.	(%)	No.	(%)
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	4,042	(92)	606	(83)
Female	346	(8)	121	(17)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
White	3,220	(73)	512	(79)
African American	645	(15)	125	(11)
Hispanic	344	(8)	68	(7)
Asian/Pacific Islander	94	(2)	14	(2)
Am Indian/AK Native	79	(2)	5	(1)
Unknown Race	6	(<1)	3	(<1)
<b>Exposure Category</b>				
Male/male sex (MSM)	3,163	(72)	421	(58)
Injection drug use (IDU)	281	(6)	63	(9)
MSM/IDU	422	(10)	43	(6)
Heterosexual sex	238	(5)	93	(13)
Other (blood product or perinatal)	40	(1)	21	(3)
Total with Known Risk	4,144		641	
No Identified Risk	244	(6)	86	(12)

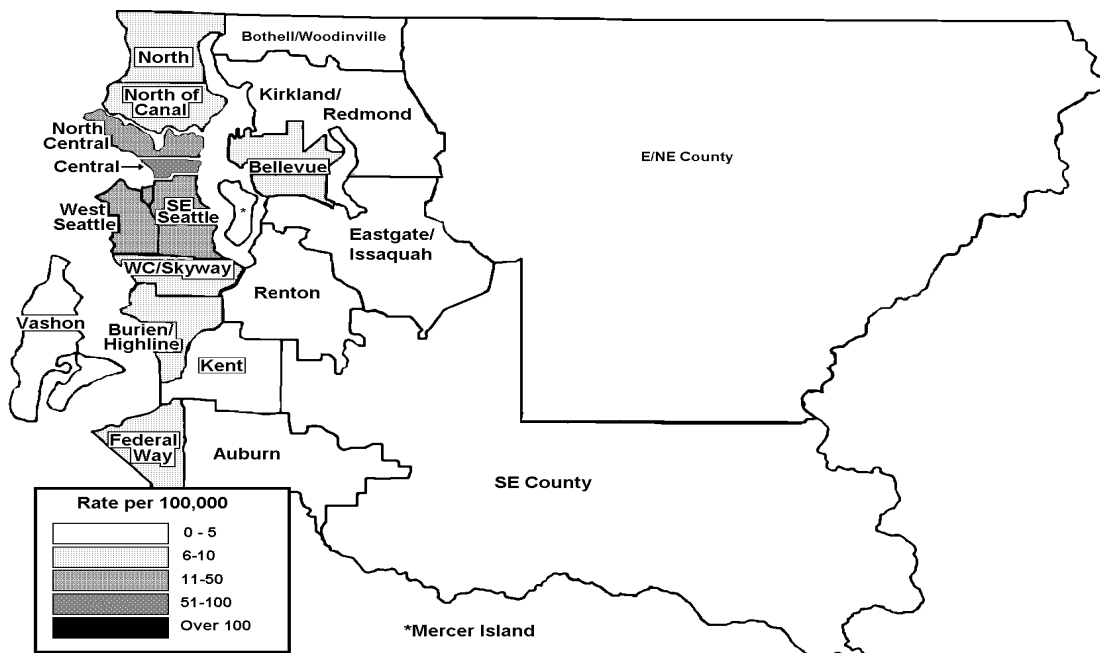
## POPULATION SIZES:

- The U.S. Census for 2000 shows 1,737,034 persons living in King County in 2000, with 563,374 in the city of Seattle and 1,173,660 outside Seattle.

## VARIATION IN AIDS RATES WITHIN KING COUNTY, 1997-1999

- Mapping the residence of AIDS cases at the time of diagnosis generally reveals marked concentrations of cases in urban areas of greatest population density. The overall average annual AIDS rate for Seattle in 1997-99 was 22.3 new cases per 100,000 people. This compares to a rate of 4.3 per 100,000 in King County outside of Seattle.
- Within Seattle, rates ranged from 8.7 per 100,000 people in North Seattle to 99.1 per 100,000 in the Central area.

## Average Annual AIDS Rates by Geographic Area in King County, 1997-1999



- While both the number and the rate of new AIDS cases in Seattle residents continues to exceed that in King County residents living outside of Seattle, this ratio has decreased in the last decade. From 1992-96 the rate of new AIDS cases per 100,000 people was about 8 times greater within the city of Seattle than outside of Seattle, but in recent years this has decreased to a five-fold ratio.